PRESIDENT: I may say for the information of this honourable House that the Government have made up their mind not to issue shares to non-Travancoreans until the Travancore public have taken sufficient number of shares. If it was possible to allot the whole shares for the outside public, the whole shares would have been subscribed now. But if at the end of 15 days or a month Government see that shares have not been sufficiently subscribed for by Travancoreans, these shares will be issued to the public outside.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: Sir, may I know whether it is the intention of Government to have branches of this Bank outside Trivandrum also?

MR. K. J. CHERIYAN: It is too early now, Sir, to think of opening branches of the Bank outside Trivandrum.

Fee concession

259. ***MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the last paragraph of the Press communique appearing in page 476 of the Government Gazette, dated 21st December 1937, is followed by the Headmasters of the various grades of Government Schools;

(*b*) whether the pupils who have been already awarded fee concession continue to enjoy the benefit by paying fee at the concession rate; and

(*c*) whether full fee is being realised from any pupil entitled to fee concession under the rules?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) No; unless forfeited by failure.

Improvement of the Kanjirappally-Elikulam Road.

260 ***MR. P. SIVARAMA PILLAI** (*Meenachil* cum *Thodupuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have received any petition from the public praying for the improvement and construction of the Kanjirapally-Elikulam road in the Kottayam taluk and what action, if any, was taken on it?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT: Yes. Improvements were being carried out every year with the maintenance grant as far as funds permitted. A substantial bridge has also been constructed in the 1st mile 7th furlong of the road.

MR. A. J. JOHN: Sir, may I know the amount set apart for these works last year?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT: I can't give the amounts for the last year.

MR. A. J. JOHN: May I know the length of the road?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT: 7 miles.

The Kidangoor-Manarkad Road.

261 ***MR. P. SIVARAMA PILLAI**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the Kidangoor-Manarkad road is properly maintained;

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(*b*) whether they have received representations from the public praying for the construction of bridges and culverts : and

(*c*) what action, if any, was taken on them?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) It was decided after consultation with the Chief Engineer that the construction of the bridges may be deferred on account of financial considerations.

Canal from Alleppey to Changanacherry.

262. ***MR. E. P. VARGHESE :** Will the Government be pleased to state what steps have been taken for the completion of the canal from Alleppey to Changanacherry?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT : This will be considered after the proposal for opening a canal and road combined is decided.

Means of Communication in the coastal regions of Shertala and Ambalapuzha taluks.

263. ***MR. E. P. VARGHESE :** Will the Government be pleased to state what steps have been taken for the means of communication in the coastal regions of Shertala and Ambalapuzha taluks?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT : In view of the prohibitive cost of opening a road along the west coast from Alleppey to the northern State boundary, the question cannot be regarded as financially practicable.

MR. E. P. VARGHESE : May I know roughly the estimate of cost for constructing one mile of that road?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT : It would come to roughly about 15 thousand rupees.

MR. E. P. VARGHESE : What is the distance of the proposed road?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT : I can't answer that question now, the road was not surveyed.

MR. E. P. VARGHESE : May I know at what rates the cross roads were constructed in those parts?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT : That also, Sir, I am not in a position to answer.

MR. E. P. VARGHESE : Was it not much below 15 thousand rupees per mile?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT : Cross road construction would not be suitable for a main road which this would be. Many things would have to be taken into consideration in the matter of estimating the cost of a road. The price of land, labour charges and transport charges and cost of materials etc. all these will vary the cost and there are many other points also to be considered.

MR. E. P. VARGHESE : Suppose, the land is given free, what will be the cost for constructing the road?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT : I cannot give you an estimate without knowing first all the conditions. I have mentioned what a rough figure for a road in that neighbourhood would be.

MR. E. P. VARGHESE : May I know whether it would be practicable to spread the work over a number of years?

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